34.

The Earl of DANBY VINDICATED: IN REFLECTIONS UPON A PAPER INTITULED,

Some REFLECTIONS *upon the E. of* DANBY, *in relation to the Murder of Sir* Edmund-bury Godfrey.

In a Letter to a Friend, from Mr. *Chriſtian.*

SIR,

I Will not ſtay much upon thoſe Reflections in relation to the Earl of *Danby*, becauſe I doubt not but God will clear his Lordſhips Innocencie in due time, to the ſhame of his Enemies, and to the expoſing thoſe, by whoſe inſatiable Malice his great Worth and Honour is calumniated to the Parliament and Kingdom.

Onely I hope no man can fail in his Obſervation what Sect of men his Lordſhip is beholding to for their good-wills, who knew they muſt deſtroy not onely Kings, but their great Miniſters of State, before they can compleat their Bloudy Reformations. For it is well known, not onely to Me and others who have had the honour of ſerving that Lord, but even to the worſt

of his Enemies, who are acquainted with him, (if they will confeſs Truth) that no man was ever a greater Aſſertor of the Church of *England*, (which is the beſt Bulwark againſt Popery) nor any man more Conſtant both in his own Devotions, and in the care of ſeeing them duely performed in his Family.

A little time (when men will but have patience to be truely informed) will ſerve to wipe off ſuch Scandals from ſo eminent and ſo good a man: But one ſo inconſiderable as I am, may ſuffer under ſo foul and falſe an Aſperſion, if I ſhould not vindicate my ſelf againſt it; beſides that by the falſity of that part which concerns me, Men will judge of the Truth both of that, and the reſt of thoſe ſcandalous and falſe Libels which are diſpers'd every day, not onely againſt the Earl of *Danby*, but againſt the King himſelf and his Government.

The Author of that fore-ſaid Libel would have done well, if he could have concealed his Religion, as well as his Name, that he might have got ſome little belief in the World: but although they be workers of darkneſs, I hope their works will at laſt, all come to light.

And upon condition that *J. B.* the Author would appear, and might be hanged in caſe he doth not prove what he ſays againſt Mr. *Chriſtian*, (whom he ſays took water with Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey* at *Whitehall* the day of his being Murthered) Mr. *Chriſtian* will ſubmit himſelf to that Judgment which *J. B.* deſerves, if either he, or any man elſe can prove Mr. *Chriſtian* to be within Threeſcore miles of *London* that day; Mr. *Chriſtian* being that very day, the whole day, and night following, at *Stamford* in *Lincolnſhire*, as will be ſufficiently teſtified.

Note that this Libel was very diligently diſperſed the laſt Seſſions of Parliament in Writing, to divers Members of that Houſe; and particularly to Mr. T. *a worthy Member thereof. The perſon that delivered the ſame at the Lobby of the Houſe of Commons, aſſerting to him,* That there were Witneſſes at a Houſe in *Arundel* Buildings, that could prove the truth of the ſame. *At which particular Houſe the Witneſſes were lodged that came from* St. Omers, *to prove Mr.* Oates *not in* England, *&c.*

J. B. deſires in Gods name, that this may be examined; but he muſt come in the Devils name to prove it: and juſt

ſnch

ſuch Truths upon Examination will be found, the Earl of *Danby*'s having had any diſcourſe with Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey* in ſome weeks before his death, and his being at the Lady *Cokes* Chamber, either at two a clock, or any other time, (although I have heard he did go through *Hambden-houſe*, where the Lady *Coke* then Lodged, about eleven of the clock that day) nor was he ſeen after that hour at the Earl of *Danby*'s Houſe by any I can hear of, but the Author *J. B.*

With the ſame truth is the Earl of *Danby* ſaid to have Meetings with Doctor *Tongue* and *Oates* at *Fox-hall*; and yet *J. B.* draws a great many Concluſions from thoſe things, being (as he ſaith) certain; and takes upon him to abuſe the Houſe of Commons, by ſaying, *This is the true cauſe of their adhering to their Votes.*

I muſt confeſs, that at firſt ſight, I wondred to think how a man who deſigns like *J. B.* to be thought a good Proteſtant, and concern'd for the ſafety of the Kingdom, could make this Relation conſiſt, without blemiſh to the Reputation of Mr. *Bedlow*, and Mr. *Praunce*, and others, by whoſe teſtimony ſo many were Condemned and have ſuffered: but before I had read it half through, his deſign was as plain to deſtroy their Evidence, and make that paſs for nothing, as it was to blaſt the Honour and Reputation of the Earl; although he would fain ſeem to ſay ſomething in their excuſe, by making it worſe, (viz.) *That we muſt not altogether rely upon what the Evidence ſay, becauſe a great deal of it is by hear-ſay*: which is to put a worthy Character upon the Judge and Jury.

I ſhould believe this *J. B.* to be Author alſo of that pretended Paper, Intituled, *An Anſwer to the Objections againſt the Earl of* Danby; but (to give him his due) it is too ſilly, and would be thought to have ſome pitty and good nature in it: but I am confident, he is the Author of the Print Intituled, *A perfect Catalogue of all the Lords Treaſurers to this preſent year, with particular Obſervations on* Thomas *Earl of* Danby, becauſe of the falſity and Malice it ſpeaks againſt this Earl; and yet in ſpight of his teeth, he hath ſaid more for him in calling him *A great Royalliſt*, than he can do for ſome he has endeavoured to commend.

And

And as to this Lords Gentility, as it is a great deal more Antient than he would have it thought, (although he allows it as long a date, as divers great men, and ſome Lord Treaſurers can pretend to) ſo his Eſtate when made Lord Treaſurer, was known to be better than any of the greater number of the Lord Treaſurers for one hundred years before him have brought into the Kings Service; although many of them have left their Places with much greater Eſtates than he hath done.

As wickedneſs is ever put under the diſguiſe of Religion and Piety, ſo *J. B.* ends his Paper with very good Prayers and Thoughts, which I fear are leaſt in his heart, (*viz.*) *That none will eſcape from Gods vengeance, but ſuch as from their Souls love Truth, and preſerve their hearts from Malice, and hands from ſeeking Innocent Blood.* Whatever *J. B.* thinks, I am intirely of that opinion: and that both he and they may Repent, and turn to the Truth, is the Prayer of

EDW. CHRISTIAN.

POSTSCRIPT.

ANY Perſon whatſoever that ſhall produce the Author J. B. *that writ and occaſioned the aforerecited Libel to be deſperſed, ſhall have Twenty Guinies reward.*

FINIS.

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